

If the BLM insists on rewriting the IAP established in 2013 to increase oil development in the NPR-A, then the following issues need to be closely examined to ensure troubling region specific concerns are not further exacerbated; most particularly climate change. The effects of climate change are already evident in the arctic and are negatively impacting this region. Science has unequivocally established the correlation between the consumption of fossil fuels and warming global temperatures. Furthermore, more climate related data has been compiled since the IAP of 2013. This information needs to be given full consideration before more drilling is conducted in the NPR-A.

Also, the Teshekpuk Lake Area should be off limits to development for its ecological significance. As I understand, the area is one of the richest in biological diversity in the circumpolar arctic. If the United States is currently “energy dominant” in the world, such an ecologically important area need not be sacrificed.